

(see Figure 2). In the region of the hinge 16, a force directed opposite the previous folding motion is exerted on the fixing element 9; its top part 14 is set with its base 17 again parallel to the vertical limb 5 of the fixing bracket 4; and for its part, the bottom part 15 performs a folding motion in the hinge 16, opening the angle between the two opposing side surfaces of the parts 14, 15, whereby it slides with its support surface 27 formed on the free end completely on the inclined step 2 on the side wall of the housing 1 and is finally supported with its diagonal base 23 on the support edge 13 formed by a step on the inside of the vertical limb 5. In this folding motion, a point is reached at which the fixing element 9 can no longer automatically spring back from this position. This produces a permanent clamping effect that holds the housing 1 securely to the carrier plate 3.

This process can be practically realized without the aid of any tool. To loosen the housing 1 from the holder, a simple tool, e.g., a screwdriver, can be inserted into the opening 19 provided in the base 17 of the part 14, and the fixing element 9 can be released from its wedged position.

Claims

1. Device for fixing a housing, especially the housing pertaining to a motor-vehicle battery, to a carrier plate, characterized in that the device comprises a fixing bracket (4) and a separate fixing element (9), wherein the fixing bracket (4) is fixed or molded onto an edge of the carrier plate (3) projecting past the housing (1) and a vertical limb (5) that extends at a distance from the housing wall and is parallel thereto, and wherein the separate fixing element (9) can be inserted into the intermediate region between the housing wall and the vertical limb (5) of the fixing bracket (4) and securely wedged therein.

2. Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that a contact surface for one end of the fixing element (9) is provided on the wall of the housing (1) and engagement means for the other end of the fixing element (9) are provided on the vertical limb (5) of the fixing bracket (4).

3. Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that on the housing wall near the base, there is a laterally projecting step (2), which forms a contact surface for the one end of the fixing element (9), and on the inside of the vertical limb (5) of the fixing bracket (4) there is an undercut (11) for engagement with the other end of the fixing element (9).

4. Device according to Claim 3, characterized in that a catch (12) for engagement with the fixing element (9) is formed in the undercut (11).

5. Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the fixing element (9) consists of a top part (14) and a bottom part (15), which are interconnected by a hinge (16) that permits a folding motion between the two parts (14, 15).

6. Device according to Claim 5, characterized in that the two parts (14, 15) have an essentially rectangular outline and their opposing side surfaces at the hinge (16) form an angle that permits a folding motion between the two parts (14, 15).

7. Device according to Claim 5, characterized in that a perpendicular rib (21) for engagement with the vertical limb (5) of the fixing bracket (4) is provided on the end surface at the free end of the top part (14).

8. Device according to Claim 5, characterized in that a projection (20), whose end surface is provided with a perpendicular rib (21) for engagement with the vertical limb (5) of the fixing bracket (4), is formed on the free end of the top part (14).

9. Device according to Claim 5, characterized in that there is an opening (19) in the top part (14).

10. Device according to Claim 5, characterized in that the bottom part (15) increases in height from the hinge (16) outward to its free end, the end surface of which is steeply sloped and on which a support surface (27) is formed that can be brought into contact with the side wall of the housing (1).

11. Device according to Claim 9, characterized in that the surface of the part (15) rising from the hinge (16) outward can be brought into contact with a support edge (13) formed on the inside of the vertical limb (5) of the fixing bracket (4).

12. Device according to Claim 5, characterized in that the top part (14) consists of a thin-walled flat base (17) and thin-walled side walls (18), and in that the bottom part (15) consists of a thin-walled base (23) rising from the hinge (16) outward and thin-walled side walls (24), and in that the hinged connection (16) is realized at the edges of the facing side walls of the narrow sides of the parts (14, 15) forming an angle.

13. Device according to Claim 5, characterized in that on the bottom part (15) there are laterally extending projections (28), the end surfaces of which are aligned with the support surface (27) on the free end of the part (15).